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To whom it may concern

I understand that downed animals are still being slaughtered for human consumption. As you know downed animals are commonly left to suffer for days with food, water, or veterinary care. The suffering these animals incur is intolerable and in many instances they die of neglect. I am completely appalled and outraged that our government would allow this horrific abuse to continue.

I am sure you must know that sick animals pose a health threat to humans and therefore, should not be allowed to enter the food chain at all. Your reluctance to stop slaughtering downed animals is probably due to the possibility of economic hardship. You should know that downed animals only make up a very small percentage of animals slaughtered. Prohibiting their marketing will cause no loss in profit. Furthermore, The U.S. Department of Agriculture should no longer be aloud to continue torturing innocent animals.

I urge you to closely review your policy on the use of downed animals. The use of tax dollars to support such barbaric abuse is irreprehensible. Whatever you position on slaughtering defenseless animals, the continued expenditure of tax dollars annually to support arrogance, cruelty and inhumanity is a national crisis that demands immediate action.

Again I encourage you to immediately reevaluate your present regulations, which allow downed animals to be slaughtered. Why not use you authority in a positive way and enforce a mandate to eliminate the use of all downed animals for consumption. **PLEASE** be proactive and do what's morally right by protecting harmless, innocent animals.

For the Animals,

Gina Catalano

Ms. Gina Catalano

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